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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,843	08/04/2003	Daniel Yellin	P-2654-US1	3449
49444	7590	03/15/2007	EXAMINER	
PEARL COHEN ZEDEK LATZER, LLP			WANG, TED M	
1500 BROADWAY, 12TH FLOOR				
NEW YORK, NY 10036			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2611	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/15/2007		PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/632,843	YELLIN ET AL.
Examiner	Ted M. Wang	Art Unit 2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,5,11,13 and 16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 2-4,6-10 and 12-15 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 08/04/2003.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, filed on 12/26/2006, with respect to the rejection of claim(s) 1, 3, 4, 11-13, 15 and 16 under 35 USC 103(a) has been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of US 6,603,823.
2. The indicated allowability of claim 5 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to US 6,603,823. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS), page 1 of 3 and page 2 of 3, submitted on 08/04/2003 complies with 37 CFR 1.98 (d) as the documents have been previously submitted to file Patent Office in prior application US Serial No. 09/438,475, which was properly identified in the information disclosure statement and is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 and the information disclosure statement submitted in the earlier application complies with 37 CFR 1.98 (a) - (c). Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir.

1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 1 and 5, 11, 13 and 16 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 8, 15 and 22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823, respectively. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the each limitation of the apparatus as recited in claims can be implemented by each of the method step as claimed in the patent.

- The broader application claim 1 of the instant application would have been obvious in view of the narrower issued claim 1 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823 (see *In re Emert*, 124 F.3d 1458, 44 USPQ2d 1149).
- The broader application claim 5 of the instant application would have been obvious in view of the narrower issued claim 1 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823 (see *In re Emert*, 124 F.3d 1458, 44 USPQ2d 1149).
- The broader application claim 11 of the instant application would have been obvious in view of the narrower issued claim 8 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823 (see *In re Emert*, 124 F.3d 1458, 44 USPQ2d 1149).

- The broader application claim 13 of the instant application would have been obvious in view of the narrower issued claim 15 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823 (see *In re Emert*, 124 F.3d 1458, 44 USPQ2d 1149).
- The broader application claim 16 of the instant application would have been obvious in view of the narrower issued claim 22 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,603,823 (see *In re Emert*, 124 F.3d 1458, 44 USPQ2d 1149).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 2-4, 6-10 and 12-15 are objected to as being dependent upon an objected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ted M. Wang whose telephone number is 571-272-3053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ted M Wang
Examiner
Art Unit 2611

Ted M. Wang

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted M. Wang".